



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with Colorado Department of Agriculture
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CROP PRODUCTION - JUNE 2009

COLORADO HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production in Colorado is forecast at 80.5 million bushels, up 9 percent from the May 1 forecast and 41 percent above the 57.0 million bushels produced last year. Estimated acreage for harvest, at 2.3 million acres, is unchanged from May 1, but 400,000 acres more than the 1.9 million acres harvested in 2008. As of June 1, the average yield is forecast at 35.0 bushels per acre, 5.0 bushels per acre above last year's average. Much needed moisture received in May along with moderate temperatures improved yield potential. Currently, wheat is in mostly good condition.

UNITED STATES HIGHLIGHTS

Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.49 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from the May 1 forecast and down 20 percent from 2008. Based on June 1 conditions, the U.S. yield is forecast at 43.9 bushels per acre, down 0.3 bushel from the previous forecast and down 3.3 bushels from last year. Grain area totals 34.0 million acres, unchanged from last month. As of May 31, heading had reached 77 percent in the 18 major States, 4 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

Forecasted head counts from the objective yield survey in the 6 Hard Red Winter States (Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas) are below last year's level in Montana and Oklahoma but above in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and Texas. Condition ratings during May declined in Kansas and Montana, improved in Colorado, Nebraska, and Oklahoma, and remained constant in Texas. Colorado and Nebraska received much needed moisture during May, while Oklahoma was adversely affected by rain and hail. Forecasted head counts from the objective yield survey in the 3 Soft Red Winter States (Illinois, Missouri, and Ohio) are below last year's level. Condition ratings declined during May in Illinois and Missouri, but improved in Ohio. Wet weather and cool temperatures in Illinois have kept crop progress behind normal.

In the Pacific Northwest States (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington), yields increased from last month in Idaho, but remain unchanged in Washington and Oregon. Forecasted head counts from the objective yield survey in Washington are above last year. Condition ratings declined during May in Washington, improved in Oregon, and remained constant in Idaho. As of May 31, winter wheat crop progress in Washington was 30 percent headed, behind the 5-year average of 54 percent.